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The Xavier NewsWire

Published by the students of Xavier University since 1915 | *Fiat justitia, ruat coelum* | Volume C Issue 21



February 18, 2015

AFJ elected to SGA Execs

BY ANDREW KOCH
Editor-in-Chief

After another two-week campaigning season of thumping speakers on the Yard and brightly-colored T-shirts, students have elected a new trio of Student Government Association (SGA) executive officers. Sophomore Andrew Redd and juniors Fare Olagbaju and Josh DeVincenzo will be sworn in as the SGA President, Legislative Vice President and Administrative Vice President, respectively.

The winning ticket, known in the campaign as AFJ, campaigned on improving diversity representation on campus and creating a more welcoming campus environment for students who currently don't feel included.

"Our driving force was our supporters. We couldn't have done it without them," Redd said in an email. "AFJ '15 is glad that people got involved and cared about the issues we brought up in our platform."

Redd said that he, Olagbaju and DeVincenzo have already

met with Taj Smith, director of the Multicultural, Gender, and Women's Center, to talk about the diversity inclusion panel, a key point of the ticket's platform.

AFJ was one of just two tickets in this year's race. JMJ, the other ticket, featured juniors Jake Haigis and Megan Brault and sophomore Jack Bainbridge.

"We want to thank (JMJ). They are incredible people that care deeply about this university," Redd said.

"Thomas, Shelby and I would like to congratulate AFJ on their win and look forward to working with them in the coming weeks," SGA President Colleen Reynolds said. "For me personally, the SGA elections are always a fresh reminder of what issues face our campus and how influential the student voice can be."

Organizers said that this year's campaign season was successful.

"We had two highly qualified tickets running who understood the culture of the school and had a real handle on what problems were facing Xavier stu-



Photo courtesy of facebook.com

Andrew Redd (left), Fare Olagbaju (center) and Josh DeVincenzo (right) won the 2015 SGA Executive Elections.

dents," Stephen Coulter, chair of Xavier's Board of Elections (BoE), said in an email. "Both tickets demonstrated a high level of respect for themselves, each other and the rules and policies of the university. We couldn't have asked for a better group of candidates to run this year."

The election drew in 1,346 votes, representing roughly 29 percent of Xavier's undergraduate population of 4,600 students.

While this figure is lower

than that of last year's election, Coulter said that the BoE "remained optimistic" about student engagement in the election. Last year's SGA election had a record turnout, which Coulter attributed to a larger number of campaign teams.

The 2014 election featured winning ticket Reynolds, Thomas Edney and Shelby Alig ("CST") who defeated three other tickets. In that election, campaigning events were canceled after BoE

issued campaigning violations to multiple tickets.

According to the BoE, neither of the 2015 tickets had any reported campaign violations.

The new executives will be sworn in at a ceremony on April 12. Because of changes to the SGA election cycle approved last year, the AFJ administration will serve a shortened term that will end on Dec. 31. SGA executives for the 2016 calendar year will be elected in November.

Art professor selected for tribute sculpture



Photo courtesy of columbiainquirer.com/The Associated Press

Hundreds of protestors demonstrate early on the morning of Oct. 13 around Saint Louis University's Clock Tower in response to the shooting deaths of unarmed black men by white police officers. Kelly Phelps, associate professor at Xavier, and his twin brother, Kyle Phelps, will create a sculpture for SLU commemorating the event.

BY GABE COSTELLO
Staff Columnist

Chair of Xavier's Art Department, Kelly Phelps, and his twin brother Kyle Phelps recently made headlines as they were selected to do commission work for Xavier's fellow Jesuit institution, Saint Louis University (SLU). The piece commemorates protests that occurred on SLU's campus in response to the shooting death of Michael Brown.

People across the nation have

been in a state of unrest following the events that took place on Aug. 9 in Ferguson, Mo.

Students and community organizers participated in demonstrations on SLU's campus, which sits less than nine miles from Ferguson. Between Oct. 13 and 18, hundreds protested near the campus' clocktower in "Occupy SLU."

The Phelps' sculpture aims to capture the spirit of the movement.

To Kelly Phelps, the protest was not just about Mike Brown, Darren Wilson or even necessarily race in America.

"It had nothing to do with that exact moment," Kelly Phelps said. "(It's about) freedom of speech (and) taking action, not one side versus the other."

Now that he and his brother have achieved artistic success, they are addressing the same issues that they encountered growing up in a working class family.

To them, community — and not race — is the overriding force.

Phelps began teaching at Xavier in 2003 and teaches a variety of art courses, including drawing and the art department's senior seminar.

Both he and Kyle studied art as undergraduate students and eventually went on to the same grad school. They have been lifelong collaborators. Kyle Phelps teaches at the University of Dayton, and the two have a studio in Dayton, Ohio.

In addition to the piece for SLU and their teaching careers, the brothers have also worked on several notable commissions

in recent years, including more than 75 commission. Some of their works appear in the NAACP National Headquarters and in the private collections of actor Morgan Freeman, director Michael Moore and musician Bootsy Collins.

Phelps was hopeful that upon completion he will present the sculpture in some way at Xavier.

Xavier students, organized by groups like the Black Student Association, staged a silent protest before a men's basketball game in December after Officer Wilson was not indicted in the shooting death of Michael Brown.

Edited by Andrew Koch.



Photo courtesy of ncca.net

Xavier professor Kelly Phelps (right) and his twin brother Kyle Phelps (left)

In this issue:

Sports

On Feb. 18, the men's basketball team will face rival Cincinnati in the annual Skyline Chili Crosstown Shootout.

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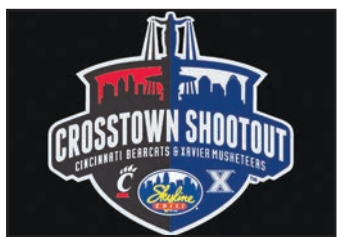


Photo courtesy of wlv.com

A&E

The *NewsWire* previews the Department of Music and Theatre's production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream"

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Photo courtesy of Dave Zlatich

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February 18, 2015

Campus News

Edited by: Lydia Rogers
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Spring Career Fair brings job opportunities to students

BY JUSTIN WORTHING
Staff Writer

Xavier's Career Development Office (CDO) connected students with over 115 local and national organizations at the Spring Career Fair.

The career fair, which took place from 3-6 p.m. on Feb. 17 at Cintas Center, featured 30 new organizations that have not previously recruited at Xavier in past fairs.

All Xavier students, Xavier alumni and other students from nearby colleges and universities were welcome to attend the fair. At least one recruiter represented each organization, and many recruiters in attendance were former Xavier graduates themselves.

According to Jonika Moore-Diggs, associate director of Career Development, the career fair was primarily a networking event designed to create relationships between students and recruiters. Recruiters did not typically offer jobs or internships to students on site; rather, the career fair provided a space for students to give recruiters good impressions.

"Usually what happens is you

walk up to an organization, you give them your 30-second elevator pitch and you might leave them with your resume," Moore-Diggs said. "Then their job will be posted on E-Recruiting, which is Xavier's online job and intern-

ship board, and then you'll apply for that job ... The connection that you made at the fair is realized when that individual looks at the resume (posted on the job board)."

The CDO also featured a

LinkedIn Photo Booth, which started at the career fair two years ago. Students used the photo booth to create a professional profile picture for their LinkedIn accounts.

"LinkedIn has become a key tool in the internship and job

search process for many individuals," Moore-Diggs said. "We want to make sure our students are aware of it as a resource (and have) a free professional photo to add to their profile."

According to LinkedIn's official blog, profiles with photos are 11 times more likely to be viewed than profiles with no photos.

Although the fair was primarily designed for juniors and seniors, the CDO recommended that all students attend.

"We encourage first-year and second-year students to attend the fair and begin to build relationships with potential employers and become familiar with the event," Moore-Diggs said. "We wouldn't want (junior or senior year) to be the first experience at the fair because there's already nerves."

The career fair on Feb 17 was the last fair for the year, but organizations will hold individual booths and events throughout the rest of the semester. For more information about such events, visit the CDO's website at xavier.edu/career.



Newswire photo by Jessica Bannon

Young professionals had the opportunity to connect with a variety of potential employers at the Spring Career Fair on Feb. 17.

- Paid Advertisement -

2013/14 Brueggeman Fellows Presentation

Kevin Perkins, Benin
EcoHealth and Buruli Ulcer

Rebecca Seipel, South Africa
International Refugee Resettlement

Rachel Snodgrass, England
Occupational Deprivation in Prisons

Maggie Cooley, India
Social Determinants of Health

Andrew Matsushita, USA & Japan
Human Resiliency

Kayla Boehner
Brain Drain in Developing Nations

Genevieve Hager, Sweden
Socialized Care for the Elderly

Spencer Liechty, Southeast Asia
Islam and Democracy

February 20th @ 4pm, Kennedy Auditorium

2015/16 Applications will be available.

VITA offers free tax returns

BY SARRIS BALCERZAK
Staff Writer

Employed students now have the opportunity to have their tax returns done for free through the XU accounting students and the IRS-sponsored Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA).

Starting every Monday evening from Feb. 16 to April 13 in Cintas Banquet Rooms, one free tax preparation assistance will be provided from 6-7 p.m.

Dr. Pricilla O'Clock started the program as a volunteer service on Saturdays and later transferred it into a class tailored to accounting students who have taken "Introduction to Taxation." Students who utilize this opportunity can earn one or two semesters worth of credit.

During the first year, students act as preparers and sit with the taxpayer and prepare the return. Second year students are promoted to reviewers who simply look over the return and sign off on its completion.

Dr. David Randolph is taking over the VITA program this year.

VITA is unique in that it is both a Xavier course and an organization sponsored by the IRS. The business helps with tax preparation assistance for low-income, elderly and student taxpayers. Xavier accounting students serve the Xavier, Norwood, Evanston and Avondale communities with basic federal and state income taxes.

Participants must bring all W2 forms, which should be mailed to the taxpayer by employers, 1099

forms, 1095-A (for insurance purchased through the market place, unless tax payer and dependents were covered by health insurance form) and 1095-B, relating to the Affordable Care Act.

Proof of identity is necessary (a passport, driver's license or any other form of photo ID is acceptable), as well as any social security cards for the taxpayer and his or her spouse or dependents.

Any other tax-related documents and last year's tax return should also be brought to the appointment if possible, but this is not mandatory.

Senior Erica Mazzoni acted as a greeter her first year and organized the clients' appointment information. Last spring she took VITA as a class and worked as a preparer. This spring she earns the title of reviewer.

"We get people from all walks of life with a wide variety of life stories. Generally, the people we help are extremely thankful for the service we provide. The class is different from anything else I have taken because the students interact with the taxpayers and have the ability to get to know them. The students are able to directly see an impact they are making on another's life," Mazzoni said.

This is the 21st year that VITA has offered Xavier students this service. Appointments are made on a first-come, first-serve basis. To schedule an appointment or ask for additional information call 513-745-2828 or email vita@xavier.edu.

Retreat offers students spiritual exploration

BY REGINA WRIGHT
Staff Writer

The Dorothy Day Center for Faith and Justice (CFJ) offered the bi-annual Approach overnight retreat to Higher Ground Retreat Center in Logan, Ind.

Approach is an introductory Christian-based retreat held in the fall and winter. It is driven by student narratives.

“Rooted in Christianity, the retreat calls students to a greater awareness to God in the world around them and serves as an introduction to the importance of reflection in one’s everyday ‘approach’ to life,” according to the CFJ’s website.

The retreat encourages finding love in life, relationships and everyday activities. It also inspires students to recognize the love people have for them.

“I think my favorite part of the retreat was being able to bond with the other retreatants,” first-year Olivia Knestrict said. “Whether it was singing songs with the group

or discussing music and Alter Hall, the group definitely bonded and it was a wonderful experience.”

Students gathered and shared experiences in small group discussions.



Photo courtesy of Facebook.com

Approach allowed students to heighten their spiritual awareness.

“In small group sessions, being able to talk and share our life experiences helped us bond on a deeper level,” first-year Tim Cyron said.

Many students gathered at the 10 p.m. Mass at Bellarmine Chapel as part of a long-standing

tradition to meet after the retreat is over.

“I would suggest that if you have the chance to go on it, you should because it is truly a life changing experience,” Cyron said.

Another retreat will be held in March by the CFJ called Encounter. Encounter is a follow-up retreat to Approach since Approach is an introductory, one-time retreat.

“I really look forward to the next step and going to Encounter in the future,” Knestrict said. “It’s going to be interesting exploring more in-depth my relationship with God, my friends and myself. I can’t wait to build a more personal relationship with God on the next retreat as I did on Approach. Approach has given me the opportunity to become

more aware about the world around me and Encounter will help me build off of it.”

For more information about Approach retreats, check out the website at xavier.edu/cfj/faith-worship/Retreats.cfm.

Upcoming SAC Events

Compiled by Lydia Rogers

1831 Week Dance

Tuesday, Feb. 20

9 p.m.

Cintas Center Banquet Rooms

Film for Thought — “Selma”

Tuesday, Feb. 24

6 p.m.

Kennedy Auditorium

Late Night Snack — Insomnia

Cookies

Thursday, Feb. 26

9 p.m.

Gallagher Student Center

Magic! Concert at Bogarts*

Thursday, March 12

7 p.m.

Bogarts Cincinnati

* Limited ticket event.

Dating event breaks barriers

Cross-Cultural Dating

Photo courtesy of Xavier.edu

BY ERICA LAMPERT
Staff Writer

Students are able to spice up their dating lives by attending the Center of International Education’s (CIE) new Cross Cultural Dating event.

On Feb. 19, students have the chance to learn the ropes of dating someone with a different cultural background.

This is the first year that CIE is holding the Cross-Cultural Dating event.

The event consists of two parts. The first part involves the Student Wellness Advocacy Group (SWAG) sharing education on safe dating practices, sexual assault prevention and resources for victims of harassment or assault.

Once SWAG completes its portion, Title IX Coordinator Kate Lawson will speak about the Title IX office, what resources are provided there and the consequences for those who commit sexual assault.

The second part of the event consists of an interactive panel of students who will discuss the dating culture and etiquette in the United States and the complexities of dating someone from a dif-

ferent culture.

The panel will discuss the common misunderstandings, especially those around language commonly used among interpersonal relationships in the United States.

CIE is holding this event to answer questions students have had about cultural differences and etiquette of dating a person with a different cultural background than their own.

“We are holding this event because it grew out of a need. Students ask these questions to us as they are not sure of the cultural etiquette or protocol,” Study Abroad Assistant Shannon O’Neill said. “Dating or managing any interpersonal relationship can be difficult on its own, but that difficulty multiplies when adding in the cross-cultural component. People can get hurt and we want to try to prevent that from happening by providing as much education as we can.”

Students are invited to learn about what they are bringing into relationships from their own cultural backgrounds.

“This event is not just for international students but for everyone. While there is going

to be serious, potentially tough topics covered, there is also a fun and interactive side to it,” O’Neill said. “Everyone needs to work at understanding each other for relationships to work out.”

Students from SWAG and CIE have been invited to participate, are preparing their presentations and have tried to spread the message around campus to invite as many students as possible to the event.

“By having students attend, we hope to increase the cultural competencies of students. We want students to walk away feeling more confident in pursuing any type of cross-cultural interpersonal relationship,” O’Neill said. “We hope students gain the information they need to engage in healthy relationships.”

Along with its Cross Cultural Dating event, CIE is also hosting an “Unpacking your Study Aboard Experience” on March 10th to help students learn how to incorporate their study abroad experiences into their resumes or job/grad school applications. For other events, students can visit the CIE website.

Xavier alum speaks on Nietzsche and writing

BY MAX BRUNS
Staff Writer

Anthony Jensen, Xavier alumnus and current faculty member at Providence College, lectured on campus on Feb. 13, exploring the relationship between philosophy and philology in the work of Friedrich Nietzsche. Invited by Dr. Gabriel Gottlieb of the Philosophy Department, Jensen addressed mostly philosophy majors and Honors Bachelor of Arts (HAB) students.

Jensen explored questions such as, “Is the true intention of what an author means to say being published? When sitting down to read something, is the book or article, magazine or story a true replication of what the author initially wrote?” in his treatment of Nietzsche.

Exploring Nietzsche’s “The uses and disadvantages of history for life,” Jensen investigated how the actual texts attributed to philosophers relate to their ideas. His lecture was entitled, “What was Philology has now been made Philosophy,” which suggested that the debate over the words an author meant to write has become a question of philosophy itself.

Although geared toward the philosophy department, the lecture was far-reaching application.

“What is written and published

cannot be the real representation of what someone meant to say,” Jensen said. Throughout the lecture, he urged listeners to consider this when reading philosophical texts, as well as all types of writing.

Jensen, who did his senior thesis at Xavier on Nietzsche before continuing on to higher studies on Nietzsche, drew on his own research on Nietzsche’s understanding of history. “The process of publishing ‘History for Life’ took five months, and the archives I explored showed many edits to the initial manuscripts that were never actually made,” Jensen said.

Jensen noted, “Nietzsche was accused of plagiarism for a publication of notes that he never even intended to hit the shelves. Arguments without context would be much less valid. In the same way, we must explore the context of publications.”

Gottlieb, asked Jensen at the lecture, “Do the discrepancies between Nietzsche’s edits and what was published drastically affect the philosophy that Nietzsche put forth?” Jensen replied, “There is considerable evidence that the philological discrepancies do cause us to question Nietzsche’s philosophy in ‘History for Life,’ which means we should read the words with a different context in mind.”

Edited by Taylor Fulkerson

February 18, 2015

Campus News

Edited by: Meredith Francis
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Student groups collaborate for Betta's event



Photo courtesy of tripadvisor.com



Photo courtesy of urbanspoon.com

The Student Activities Council, the D'Artagnan Marketing Group and Betta's are collaborating to host a date night called "Betta's with Bae." Live music, a raffle and food will be part of the event.

BY JESS LARKIN
Copy Editor

The Xavier Student Activities Council (SAC) and the D'Artagnan Marketing Group are collaborating on an event hosted at Betta's Italian Oven.

The event, officially dubbed "Betta's with Bae," was created in an effort to garner more campus publicity for Betta's after its revenue decline over the last few years. Despite its full bar of imported craft beers and wines and a high recommendation for its pizza from Cincinnati Magazine as "the

best in the city," Betta's business has dwindled.

"When my team and I began working with Betta's, we all seemed to notice the same thing," sophomore Matthew Connor, consultant for the D'Artagnan Marketing Group, said in an email.

"Here was a high quality, unique Italian restaurant with delicious food, comfortable atmosphere and an amazing bar, all at a relatively low price. It is perfect for any occasion whether it's a date, watching your favorite sports on television or just enjoying time

with friends," Connor said.

The D'Artagnan Marketing Group, affiliated with the Marketing Club, is a student-run consulting group on campus that takes in clients that are in need of any help that is marketing related.

The group gives students the opportunity to apply their classroom knowledge in the real world by taking on clients that need marketing assistance. Betta's is one of the group's clients, with student members Connors, Mark Green, Megan Ybarra, Nate Cook and Ben Shircliff, along with cur-

rent Consulting President Michael Dolunt.

"What was so baffling was that next to nobody was experiencing what we had," Connor said. "We knew right from the get-go that just getting people in the door would get them to come back again and again."

Connor and his group have worked since the beginning of last semester with Betta's, helping with customer involvement and loyalty, hoping to establish rapport with Xavier students, particularly those over 21 who can enjoy the full bar.

"The date night project is one of many projects we are using to get more students to experience these great things about Betta's," Connor said.

Students are encouraged to bring their dates or friends to enjoy live music from Pat Mueller, a raffle and delicious Italian plates from 5-9 p.m. on Feb. 25 at Betta's on Montgomery Road.

Attendees of the event will receive a 10 percent discount on their meal, as well as coupons to Graeter's and Stones Lanes for after the dinner.

- Paid Advertisement -

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POLICE NOTES



Feb. 9, 3:50 p.m. – Xavier Police assisted Cincinnati Police with an accident at Dana Avenue and Victory Parkway.

Feb. 10, 8:33 p.m. – Xavier Police assisted Cincinnati Police with a traffic stop at Dana Avenue and St. Francis Xavier Way. The driver was arrested on several outstanding warrants.

Feb. 11, 4:29 p.m. – A student reported receiving a fraudulent check as a part of an employment scam. The student was advised to not cash the check and to stop communication with the employer.

Note: Xavier Police warns students to not communicate with questionable employers. According to Xavier Police, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Feb. 12, 12:50 a.m. – Xavier Police assisted Residence Life with a room search in Kuhlman Hall. A small amount of drug paraphernalia and a loaded BB gun were confiscated during the search.

Feb. 13, 10:42 p.m. – Xavier

Police assisted Residence Life with uncooperative students and alcohol violations in Kuhlman Hall. Residence Life will handle the matter.

Feb. 13, 11:10 p.m. – An intoxicated, underage student lying in the C-1 Lot was transported to Good Samaritan Hospital. The following day, the student was cited with underage consumption and possession of a fictitious ID.

Feb. 13, 11:27 p.m. – An intoxicated, underage student was

transported to Good Samaritan Hospital from his or her room in Kuhlman Hall.

Feb. 14, 1:02 p.m. – An underage student drinking from a flask at the men's basketball game was cited for underage consumption and possession of a fictitious ID.

Feb. 14, 11:40 p.m. – A student throwing glass bottles out of his or her dorm window in Husman Hall was cited for disorderly conduct, possession of marijuana and possession of a fictitious ID.

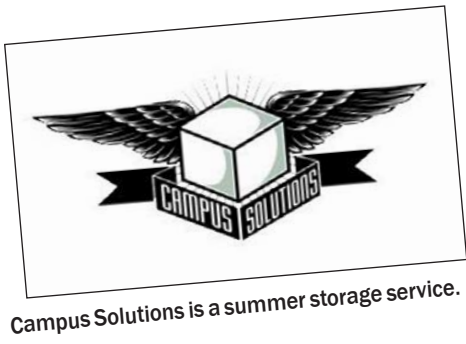
Feb. 15, 3:05 a.m. – Xavier Police assisted Norwood Police with a traffic stop at University Station. An occupant of the vehicle with outstanding felony warrants was taken into custody.

Feb. 15, 1:45 p.m. – Xavier Police received reports of a broken toilet in Brockman Hall and damage to a wall and door to a stairwell in the GSC. Physical Plant was contacted.

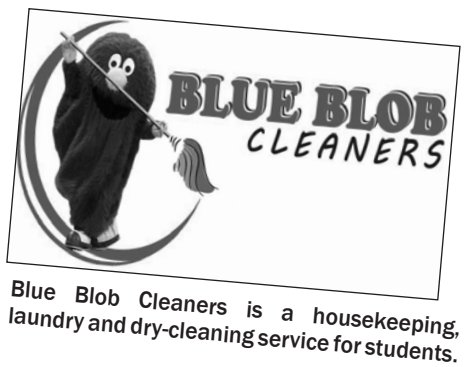
NOTE OF THE WEEK
Chain of Fools

Feb. 11, 5:25 p.m. – Xavier Police and Physical Plant recovered a bike that was chained to the front doors of Cintas Center. The owner of the bike was advised to not chain the bike in such a way that would be dangerous to those exiting the building. The property was returned to the owner.

Profile: Student-Run Businesses



Representatives from Blue Blob Cleaner pitch their business plan to the SRB board. From the left, Gabriela Serrano, Ana Diaz, Peter Reuss, Gerardo Panameño and Gali Zummar.



BY EMILY LINGINFELTER
Guest Writer

The Student-Run Business Program (SRB) at Xavier continues to offer opportunities for student and faculty members through its spectrum of services and employment.

Located within the Sedler Family Center for Experiential Learning in Business, the program enables students to apply core knowledge and teamwork into real-life scenarios.

Current operations include Campus Solutions, a storage and

movement service for students' belongings over the summer; Aramis Consulting, an entrepreneurial management consulting firm; and Blue Blob Cleaners, a housekeeping, laundry and dry-cleaning service for residential and off-campus students.

Businesses in the "pipeline phase," which have yet to be fully completed, include Faves, a healthy eatery potentially entering the Gallagher Student Center bookstore; Xavier Urban Farm, a business agency for the current Sustainability operations; a bicycle

rental and repair shop; and a hair-cutting service. These start-ups are being planned and executed by undergraduate students.

An advisory board formed by alumni and professionals from the Cincinnati business community offers insight for immediate goals and application of the business strategy.

Owen Raisch, the SRB director, oversees the long-term goals. Raisch directs students to advise each other, since many businesses undergo similar issues.

While this particular experi-

ential program may be new to Xavier, its collaboration is intended to complement the traditional Jesuit identity of "the head, the heart and the hands" approach to education.

"What has really impressed me ... is the energy and dedication that students have brought to this process," Dr. Margaret Cunningham, director of the Sedler Family Center, said.

"For the most part, they are not being compensated financially or through academic credit for this, yet they work extremely hard

to produce something for the experience and the accomplishment to leave something here at Xavier for future students and the benefit of the university. We are poised for success," Cunningham said.

The program is willing and excited to work with anybody seeking involvement with these kinds of initiatives, whether that may be proposing a new business idea or becoming an employee.

For further information about SRB, contact SRB director Owen Raisch at 513-400-4097 or email him at raischo@xavier.edu.

News in Brief

BY MEREDITH FRANCIS
Campus News Editor

Marriage licenses issued to same-sex couples in Alabama

A federal judge in Alabama issued a ruling that instructed a probate judge in Mobile County to allow same-sex couples to obtain marriage licenses. The ruling sends a message to other Alabama counties after the Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court encouraged probate judges in many counties to ignore the federal ruling that struck down same-sex marriage bans.

ISIS kills 21 Christians in Libya

An ISIS propaganda video was released, showing 21 Egyptian Christians being beheaded on a Libyan beach. The captives had been kidnapped from Sirte, Libya, in December and January. Though ISIS's control is mostly concentrated in Iraq and Syria, the video appears to show an affiliate group in Libya. The U.N. Security Council condemned what it called "the heinous and cowardly apparent murder."

Train derails in West Virginia

A train carrying millions of pounds of oil crashed in West Virginia on Feb. 16, sending oil into Kanawha River. The CSX train derailed near Boomer, W. Va. At least seven of the derailed cars ignited, creating a massive fire that is still burning. Between 200 and 300 people were forced to evacuate the area. Firefighters continue to fight the blaze in temperatures that haven't risen about the teens.

Violence continues amid Ukraine ceasefire

Though Ukrainian forces and pro-Russian separatists recently agreed to a ceasefire, the violence in eastern Ukraine continued on Feb. 16. Five Ukrainian service members have been killed in the clashes. The renewed outbreak of violence comes after European leaders, including Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko and Russian President Vladimir Putin, reached an agreement that would temporarily halt the violence.

Muslim students killed in Chapel Hill



From left to right, Deah Barakat, Yusor Abu-Salha and Razan Abu-Salha were killed in Chapel Hill on Feb. 10.

BY RICHARD MEYER
Copy Editor

The FBI is launching an investigation after three Muslim students were murdered in Chapel Hill, N.C.

Craig Stephen Hicks, 46, is being charged with three counts of first-degree murder for shooting his neighbors on Feb. 10.

The victims have been identified as Deah Barakat, 23, his wife Yusor Abu-Salha, 21, and her sister Razan Abu-Salha, 19. The three were found dead when police responded to reports of gunfire in the condo complex where they lived.

The police have cited an "ongoing neighbor dispute over parking" as the motive for the attack,

but the families of the victims believe it was a hate-crime due to their religion.

"We understand the concerns about the possibility that this was hate-motivated, and we will exhaust every lead to determine if that is the case," Chapel Hill Police Chief Chris Blue said.

Hicks' attorney has spoken out against the belief saying that a "mundane" neighborhood parking issue has escalated into international religious debate.

The FBI launched its preliminary investigation of the murder after concerns that federal laws were violated in regards to the case. The investigation has included going through Hicks' social media pages, where there were

many posts stating his disapproval of religion. Hicks described religion as "the world's most successful pyramid scheme."

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which is made up of 57 Muslim countries, also offered their assessment, saying the crime reflected "rising anti-Muslim sentiments and Islamophobic acts" in the United States.

President Obama issued a statement, offering his support for the families of the victims.

"No one in the United States of America should ever be targeted because of who they are, what they look like or how they worship. Michelle and I offer our condolences to the victims' loved ones," he said.

February 18, 2015

Sports

Edited by: Nick McGill
mcgilln@xavier.edu

Women's team splits two on the road

By ADAM TORTELLI
Staff Writer

The Xavier women's basketball team had a full schedule when traveling along the east coast this past weekend.

The Musketeers returned to Cincinnati this weekend after splitting two games against conference opponents, beating Georgetown and losing to Villanova.

On Feb. 13, the team took down the struggling Georgetown Hoyas in the nation's capital by a score of 60-55.

Sophomore guard Raeshaun Gaffney led the team with 12 points in conjunction with double digit scoring from juniors guard Jenna Crittendon and forward Brianna Glover.

Senior point guard Maleeka Kynard led the team with four assists and four steals while also dropping nine points before the final buzzer sounded.

After a back-and-forth start, Georgetown pulled out to an 11 point lead with just over five min-

utes left to play in the first half.

Xavier then desperately answered with a run of its own to tie the game at 25.

A layup by the Hoyas and successful free throws from each

team then sent the game into half-time with the Musketeers trailing by two.

Nearly halfway through the second half, Xavier jumped out to a nine-point advantage behind hot



Newswire photo by Adam Spegele

Sophomore forward Leah Schaefer takes the ball to the rim against Butler.

second-half shooting from junior guard Aliyah Zantt.

This lead would soon dissipate until the Musketeers started a 7-0 run with just over three minutes left in regulation.

Georgetown's ninth loss in a row only buried the team farther into the bottom of conference standings.

Following a full day of rest on Valentine's Day, women's basketball jumped back into action on Feb. 15 for a matinee game against the Villanova Wildcats.

Head coach Brian Neal could not keep the fire going with his team, as the team suffered a troubling 64-48 loss at the Pavilion in the city of brotherly love.

The Wildcats came out firing, connecting on more than 60 percent of their first slew of shots.

They quickly pounced ahead to lead by double digits less than midway through the first half of play.

Xavier tried to cut away at the deficit, getting as close as seven

down, but the Wildcats had a win in their grasp and refused to release it from their claws.

To no avail, the Musketeers turned it up a notch and outscored their opponents in the second half in hope of encountering the brink of some miraculous comeback.

Among the few things to carry over from the Georgetown victory, Zantt, whose scoring never seized from her second-half outburst just two days prior, led the team with 13 points.

Other statistical leaders included sophomore forward Leah Schafer and Gaffney with six rebounds each.

The team is now 15-11 on the season and 7-8 in conference play.

Xavier sits in seventh place in the Big East as it continues fighting for conference position with the regular season nearing a close.

The Musketeers get back to the grind after a full week off on Feb. 22 to face the Butler Bulldogs.

Baseball evens out record at 2-2

By BRENDAN BURRIS
Staff Writer

As Spring Training nears in Major League Baseball, the Xavier baseball team began its season with a 2-2 road trip against Army, Boston College and Wofford in Spartanburg, S.C.

The Musketeers first faced a solid Army team, with sophomore left-handed pitcher Brad Kirschner making his first career start for Xavier.

Kirschner ended the day after five innings, giving up two hits and

two walks and striking out seven.

In what was largely a pitchers' duel throughout the game, the Musketeers led the Black Knights 5-1 heading into the bottom of the ninth inning.

Army then started to come back, scoring three runs, until its possible tying run was thrown out at home plate by the Musketeers.

Next, the Musketeers were unable to upend Boston College, who won the first of two matchups between the teams 14-7.

Despite the loss, Xavier junior

infielder Andre Jernigan went 4-5 in the game, scoring twice and driving in one run.

The team then fell to the Wofford Terriers 11-3, despite multi-hit games by junior infielder David Morton and junior catcher Daniel Rizzie, and two RBIs by senior right fielder Brian Bruening.

In the final matchup of the weekend, which saw the team play four games in three days, the Musketeers were able to avenge their previous loss to the Golden Eagles of Boston College by a

score of 9-4.

Trailing 4-0 heading into the sixth inning, the Musketeers put five runs on the board plus another four in the top of the eighth.

The comeback was led by redshirt senior outfielder Patrick Jones and senior infielder Selby Chidemo, who went 3-5 and 2-4 from the plate, respectively.

During the weekend, junior shortstop Andre Jernigan batted .500 (8 for 16), had four RBIs, four stolen bases and two multi-hit games.

This was enough to make him the Big East Player of the Week, the second time he has received the award. Sophomore Greg Jacknewitz also was honored, making the weekly Big East Honor Roll with his first career save in the Musketeers first win of the weekend against the Army Black Knights.

The team next plays in the "First Pitch Invitational" on Feb. 20-22 in Greenville, S.C., against Furman, Presbyterian and Indiana.

Opinion: NBA All-Star weekend

Stephen Curry, Zach LaVine shine in skills competitions

By AUSTIN GILL
Copy Editor

For those reluctant to watch the NBA's annual All-Star game and its characteristic lack of de-

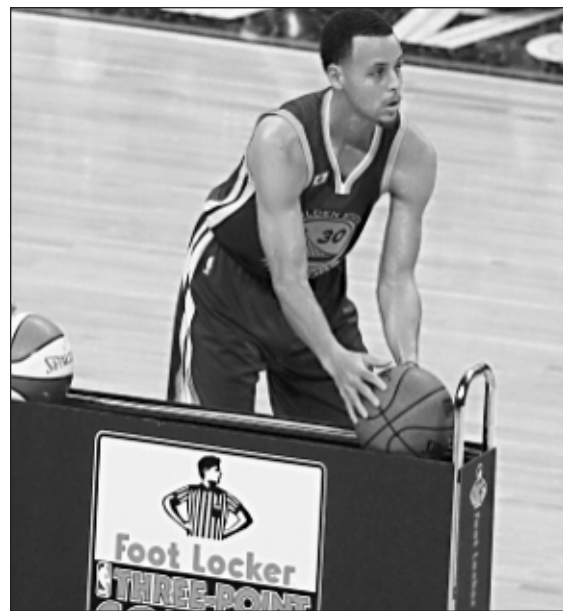


Photo courtesy of philly.com

Stephen Curry prepares to launch another three.

fense, 2015 offered much of the same.

Sunday's game featured some wild shots and acrobatic finishes, but the low-effort spectacle was, as usual, absurd.

The West outlasted the East, 163-158, behind Russell Westbrook's 41 points. Westbrook, a point guard, tacked on just one assist to earn the game's MVP award.

It was not the All-Star game, but the three-point contest and the dunk contest that proved rousing for All-Star weekend.

Golden State's Stephen Curry drained a magnificent 13 straight 3-pointers in the final round to beat a phenomenal field of shooters in the Footlocker 3-Point Contest.

Teammate Klay Thompson advanced to the final round with a high score of 24 points in the first, and Kyrie Irving from the Cavaliers and Curry followed close behind with 23 apiece.

Wesley Matthews' 22 points in the first round were not enough to advance, marking the first time in NBA history that a player who scored 19 or more in the first round was eliminated.

Curry's dominant 27 points in the final round earned him this year's crown, easily trumping Thompson's 14 and Irving's 17.

The dunk contest has gradually lost some of its luster over the years, but that didn't deter Minnesota's rookie Zach LaVine

from dazzling in his own one-man show.

LaVine paid homage to the movie "Space Jam," which he credits for inspiring his basketball career, by donning a Michael Jordan Toon Squad jersey for his first dunk.

In one fluid motion, LaVine promptly buried an awesome through-the-legs dunk that left judge Julius Erving stunned.

For his second dunk, the elastic-limbed rookie wrapped the ball behind his back with his left hand before throwing it down with his right.

He scored

a perfect 50 on both opening dunks en route to the 2015 crown. Fans immediately drew comparisons to Vince Carter's legendary performances, and it seems LaVine has singlehandedly revived the dunk-contest.

Brooklyn's Mason Plumlee, Milwaukee's Giannis Antetokounmpo and Orlando's Victor Oladipo were simply no match for LaVine, who said he would even beat LeBron James in a dunk-off.

While this remains to be seen, one thing is certain: it's going to take quite a performance to beat LaVine or Curry, who are sure to be present in next year's All-Star Weekend.

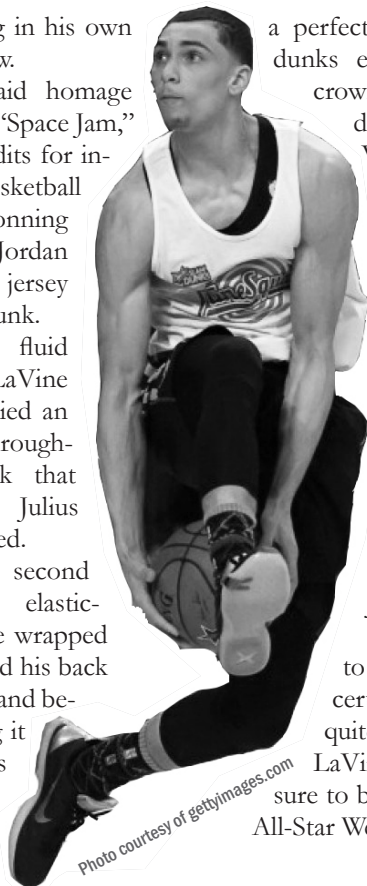


Photo courtesy of gettyimages.com

Crosstown Shootout

Previewing the city’s biggest rivalry

By ADAM TORTELLI
Staff Writer

Feb. 18 marks another chapter in one of the greatest rivalries in all of college basketball as Xavier men’s basketball takes on its crosstown rival, the University of Cincinnati (UC) Bearcats. The matchup between Cincinnati’s two premier college basketball programs dates back to the 1928 season when UC came to play at St. Xavier College’s state-of-the-art Schmidt Fieldhouse. After taking a hiatus for roughly 15 years, the two schools began an annual meeting in which Cincinnati would dominate for the next half of a century. However, Xavier has responded justly, winning 12 of the past 18 matchups. Now, for the first time in three years, the Crosstown Shootout is returning to college campuses as a result of the brawl that took place

in December of 2011. From that infamous incident, which relegated the game to neutral sites, only a few players remain to see the Shootout brought back to campuses. Xavier’s senior point guard Dee Davis played sparingly in the game while Bearcat senior forward Jermaine Sanders did not see the court until unnecessarily partaking in the “extra-curricular” activities. Sanders was later dismissed from the university in 2012 for an off-court issue, but has since returned after playing two seasons at Trinity Valley College in Texas. Only on the rarest of occasions have the two teams entered the game with such postseason implications on the line. Xavier (16-10) and Cincinnati (17-8) are both looking for momentum that will carry through the rest of the regular season and

hopefully result in a bid to the NCAA tournament. In years past, this marquee matchup has occurred prior to conference play and neither team was in need of a statement victory other than in terms for hometown bragging rights. While all experts are predicting the two rivals to make the big dance in March, recent slumps have both teams on their heels and focus levels turned to the highest setting. Both teams have struggled to be complete on both ends of the floor this season. In all, the Bearcats’ defense and lack of ability to put the ball through the hoop paired with Xavier’s scoring excellence and occasionally lackluster defense has local enthusiasts salivating for what should be a classic in the making. Xavier offensive prowess will be leaning heavily on the balanced attack of leading scorers freshman forward Trevon Bluecitt and senior center Matt Stainbrook and a slew of productive bench players. Recent surges by sophomore guard Myles Davis and forward Jalen Reynolds will also play a significant roll if the Musketeers hope to overcome Cincinnati’s stifling defense. Cincinnati will look to sophomore guard Troy Caupain and junior big man Octavius Ellis to make big plays for the Bearcats early on. The Bearcats entire lineup of post players is different from what Xavier saw at U.S. Bank Arena last season and will be a match up to keep an eye on. While the rivalry returns to home turf, the intensity is sure to be as high as ever. Will Wolkoff, a University of Cincinnati student who hosts a Bearcats talk show on Bearcast Media, discussed the energy that will be alive during the game on his show. “If you think that nothing’s going to go on either on the floor or in the stands, I think you’re out of your mind,” Wolkoff said.



Newswire photo by Andrew Matsushita

Sophomore guard Myles Davis is never afraid to drive the lane for a shot at the rim.

Who to watch for?

Troy Caupain



Photo courtesy of rossimophoto.wordpress.com

Sophomore guard Troy Caupain is the floor general for the Bearcats as well as the only person on the team to average double-digit scoring. He averages 10.0 points per game and 3.4 assists.

Octavius Ellis

Junior power forward Octavius Ellis is the team’s second leading scorer with 9.4 points per game. He also leads the team in blocks per game (2.4) and rebounds per game (7.1).



Photo courtesy of cincinnati.com

Gary Clark



Photo courtesy of cincinnati.com

Forward Gary Clark is an impact freshman for the Bearcats. He averages 7.4 points per game and is second on the team with 6.8 rebounds per game. He is tied for the team lead in steals (1.2 per game).

Farad Cobb

Junior guard Farad Cobb comes off the bench for the Bearcats and is their primary 3-point shooter. He has knocked down one-third of his 3-pointers this season.



Photo courtesy of cincinnati.com

Cincinnati’s favorite rivalry

Staff writer Brent Raines discusses the city’s most heated rivalry and what makes it better to be a Musketeer

By BRENT RAINES
Staff Writer

There are precisely two times over the course of a year when being a Musketeer student especially beats being a Bearcat: when recent graduates are entering the work force in May and the week of the Crosstown Shootout. For a long time, the University of Cincinnati (UC) always seemed to be the big, fun school. Sure a Xavier degree was worth more, but we didn’t have cool architecture, parties and a football team. Only one of those is true.

Worst of all, Xavier basketball was the doormat on which Oscar Robertson wiped his shoes on his way to continued success throughout his career. At one point, Xavier only beat the Bearcats twice in 22 years. But now the Crosstown Shootout is our chance to shine as a school and assert our newfound dominance in something other than academics, as Xavier has now won 12 of the last 18 matchups. Xavier basketball has turned into the power program of the city while every Shootout victory

dents UC’s once seemingly impenetrable façade of coolness a little further. And it’s only going to get better for the Musketeers. The Big East ought to send twice the number of teams to the NCAA Tournament as UC’s American Athletic Conference. Xavier has appeared in Forbes top 20 revenue-producing basketball programs every year the list has been compiled. UC has never been close. Sure, basketball is not the only thing that matters. But considering

this is one of the few cities in the entire country with two programs of this size and prestige within its borders, it would be foolish to suggest that it plays no role at all. ESPN commentator Jay Bilas once succinctly summed up the importance of the rivalry when he said, "Cincinnati and Xavier have created a rivalry that is unparalleled when it comes to outright passion and civic division." The Crosstown Shootout is a great barometer of how far Xavier has come, and a great chance to show our city the progress we

have made. It is not a coincidence that the growth of our basketball program has run parallel to the expansion and further development of our campus and the student body. It is our success on the hardwood that has turned the tide. Xavier has begun to establish itself as a dominant team. Someday, all of us Xavier grads will be able to confidently say we went to the “cool” school. Basketball will be one of the reasons why. Edited by: Nick McGill

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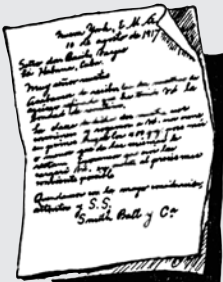
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Same-sex parenting

Earlier this month Katy Faust, a blogger raised by same-sex parents, wrote an open letter to Justice Kennedy, a traditional swing vote in the Supreme Court.

In the letter, which has been shared more than 270,000 times, she argues that same-sex marriage presents inherent disadvantages to children. Because same-sex partners cannot have children in a conventional fashion, the institutionalization of same-sex marriage would “guarantee” that a child would be denied a “natural right” to be raised by his or her biological parents, “whether by adoption, divorce or third-party reproduction.”

While Faust concedes that LGBTQ individuals should receive all of the same rights as their straight counterparts, she states that legalizing same-sex marriage “moves us well beyond our ‘live and let live’ philosophy into the land where our society promotes a family structure where children will always suffer loss.”

“I think we can agree that divorce and broken relationships have a negative impact on children’s upbringing, but we cannot confuse that reality with the effect of a particular lifestyle or household.”
Andrew Koch

child, regardless of his or her parents’ gender or sexual orientations. Her problem seems to be less with the reality of having two mothers than it is with the fact that her parents’ relationship had fallen apart.

I think we can agree that divorce and broken relationships have a negative impact on children’s upbringing, but we cannot confuse that reality with the effect of a particular lifestyle or household.

True, same-sex couples generally have to adopt in order to become parents. But the government has long since abandoned the idea of unilaterally protecting the “natural rights” of children to be raised by their biological parents. We have an extensive foster care system that screens prospective parents for financial stability and (at least in theory) parental competence. And Faust, as far as I can tell, isn’t arguing that we should stop allowing heterosexual couples from adopting.

While there may be six individuals raised by same-sex parents who believe the idea of same-sex child-rearing harms children, there are certainly tens of thousands of children raised in “traditional” households who would argue the same thing about their experiences.

Marriage as an institution may not be perfect, but that doesn’t mean the government has the authority to determine the best modes and environs of parenting, nor can it deny individuals their rights to happiness.



Andrew Koch is a senior English and advertising double major from Cincinnati.



Newswire cartoon by Digba “Digs” Coker

First Amendment to the United States’ Constitution

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

God does not win elections

Republican candidates scare off voters with appeals to religion

A couple weeks ago, Bobby Jindal, governor of Louisiana and possible contender for the Republican presidential nomination for 2016 (he has not yet announced, but there is much speculation), headlined a prayer rally in his home state entitled “The Answer,” at which he was quoted saying, “Our God wins.” As can be expected, this whipped up a media frenzy, and understandably so.

This week, I depart from my usual concern of local politics to deliver a message to Mr. Jindal and the conservative religious factions who back him: your God does not win elections. At least not the presidential ones, not anymore.

The appeal to religion is an understandably tempting political move for a Republican politician. The religious right is a powerful and vocal sect of the population, and it makes up a huge swath of the vote needed to get the coveted Republican nomination, which is the first step to the presidency.

Let’s face it, we live in an age of a multi-billion dollar Internet porn industry, discreet naughty-toy shipping and hundreds of apps that far surpass Tinder’s sexual connotation. All these things provide outlets for our curiosity about BDSM. “Fifty Shades of Grey” provided women with the unique opportunity to explore this lifestyle, albeit vicariously.

I think what often gets mixed up is women’s liberty to read and enjoy a highly sexualized story like this and the implicit narrative of sexual manipulation. You’d think those would be hard to overlap, right? Wrong.

It would be different if the rich and powerful Mr. Grey were doing things that the average-Jane protagonist Ana enjoys, but she continually expresses her discomfort. Despite her capacity to have nine orgasms per encounter, she fears him. This theme is repeated over and over again throughout the story. Ana’s relationship with Grey is unhealthy, to say the least.

This is the danger: Americans are wary of candidates who are overly religious, and even if one such zealot does not wind up with the Republican nomination, these figures cloud the discussion and provide an easily mocked and discredited image of the party to which the Democrats can cling.

When pressed by news anchor George Stephanopoulos to defend his comments, Jindal turned to history as a precedent, claiming that presidents in the past, as far back as Washington, have turned to God for guidance in troubled times.

Yes, perhaps, but there is a difference between turning to God and taking the stage to preach His word. Let’s look a little further back to see why that might scare Americans — 1789, to be exact.

The French Revolution, founded on nearly identical principles to our own, had two enemies: the crown and the state-sanctioned church. For the French people, democratic values could not survive in a society in which religious leaders held power because religious leaders do not answer to the people, they answer to something with which they have a special connection, something that offers them a privileged position.

Even if most Americans don’t understand it, this is the reason we tend to value a separation of church and state at the highest levels. The French feared religious rule, and the intensity of this fear

vive in a society in which religious leaders held power because religious leaders do not answer to the people, they answer to something with which they have a special connection, something that offers them a privileged position.

What is at issue here is that this fear, which pervades all but the pocket of this country labelled the “Christian right,” makes Jindal a dangerous figure for the Republican party. If the Republicans want to be relevant again, they need to work to emphasize their philosophies that really and truly resonate with current voters, especially younger ones. Many young voters value libertarian ideals of freedom and limited regulation of markets but are scared off by old men hocking religion as a basis for governance.

Bobby Jindal serves only to remind the nation that such politicians exist in the Republican party. When he draws votes in the primary, voters will note that the Republican party still supports

such politicians.

Mr. Jindal, I reiterate, your god doesn’t win. He simply scares off voters and, more often than not, hurts your party.

In France, it is illegal to ask a politician’s religious affiliation. Perhaps the Republican party would fare better there.

Griff Blutworth is a junior Philosophy, Politics & the Public, Honors Bachelor of Arts and theatre triple major from West Chester, Ohio.



Griff Blutworth is a junior Philosophy, Politics & the Public, Honors Bachelor of Arts and theatre triple major from West Chester, Ohio.

Fifty shades: celebrating unhealthy sex

Ana and Grey’s relationship isn’t romantic, so why do we love it so much?

Quick disclaimer: this is not meant to denounce the BDSM community, so long as all parties are interested in the same kind of play. In “Fifty Shades,” this is not the case. Ana never openly says “no” to Grey, but she’s clearly not into it. She’s instead putting up with what she sees as a flaw in order to keep him around. Not so sexually liberating, huh ladies?

Similarly, Grey seems to be interested in his partner because of her innocence. Gross.

What’s even worse is that besides all these 30 to 50-year-old readers, a ton of impressionable 18 to 24-year-old young women have picked up the book as well. So, instead of women utilizing “Fifty Shades” as a harmless type of mommy-porn, young adults could be — and are going to be — viewing this novel/movie as if it belongs in the romance genre.

Since when have our standards dropped from making love to hard, fast doin’ it? As someone who has no real experience with

the context of mommy-porn (ew) or a naughty R-rated film. But it’s really dangerous to have this story marketed to a younger audience that is going to watch this film on Valentine’s Day and confuse it for love and romance.

The title “Fifty Shades of Grey” sounds more like a perpetrator’s argument for hooking up with that drunk girl at the party whose slurred no sounded a whole lot like a “yeah.” It sounds a lot like the “Well did you see what she was wearing? She was asking for it!” bullshit that sexual assault apologists use to place blame on victims.

Since the beginning of literature, sex has been tied to love. I’m not going to speak on how valid or invalid that is, because it probably depends on the individual and the situation. I just think that violent, oppressive sex should not be equated to romance.

When did we get bored of making love? (For the purpose of romance, at least.) There are

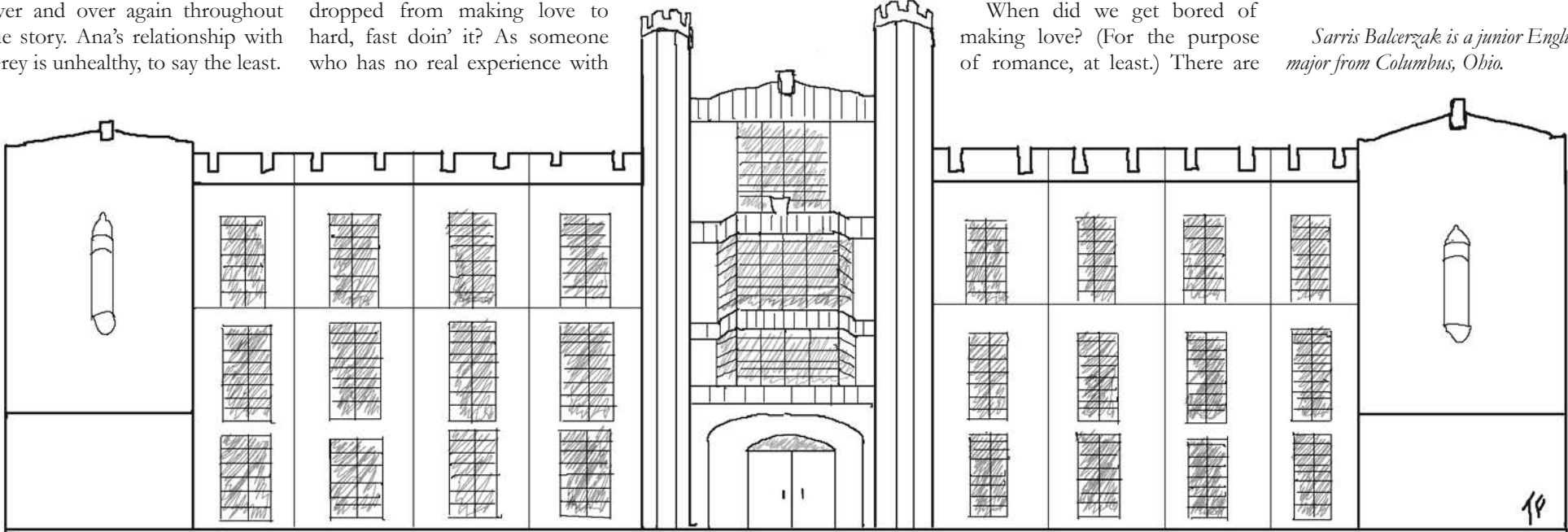
certainly scientific benefits to having a highly sexual lifestyle. Furthermore, there’s probably a really healthy time and place for plain ol’ screwing. I think that erotic, ill-written fiction portraying unhealthy relationships disguised as a romance is not the way to celebrate sex for sex’s sake.

So congratulations to Random House Publication, I’m sure you’ve made hundreds of millions. But at what cost?

Sarris Balcerzak is a junior English major from Columbus, Ohio.



Sarris Balcerzak is a junior English major from Columbus, Ohio.



'A Midsummer Night's Dream'



Sophomore Mac Blais (far left) and senior Sterling Shaw (far right) argue for the love of sophomore Katie Mitchell (middle left). Sophomore Alex Roberts (middle right) overlooks the commotion.

BY AIYANA MOORE
Staff Writer

Love, obsession and jealousy follow four crisscrossed lovers as they venture into an enchanted fairy forest in “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.” Now, with help from theater professional Jeremy Dubin of the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, Xavier’s theater department joins with the magic and humor in Shakespeare’s most famous comedy.

“We like to do a big, classic play at least every two years,” Stephen Skiles, director of theatre, said. “We were due for another Shakespeare.”

With the help of Dubin, who

directs Xavier’s production of “Midsummer,” the theater department wasted no time in moving forward with the play.

“Midsummer,” which keeps all of Shakespeare’s language intact, has updated scenery.

Even though the original language is unchanged, the audience, according to Skiles, should come prepared to expect not only energy, speed and fun, but to be surprised and shocked as well.

“I don’t think that anybody is expecting what we are about to do,” Hannah Sheppard, who plays Titania, said.

“Jeremy’s ideas of the play are very 2015 and pretty crazy,” Skiles

said. “Two words: forest rave.”

However as fun as it is for the actors to play and for the audience to watch, the significance comes from the experience that the students get.

“We wrote our new theater degree around one really simple idea,” Skiles said. “We wanted to make sure that we have professional collaborations for our students in all areas.”

Having Jeremy Dubin direct ‘Midsummer’ was just one of these areas. I don’t know that there’s anybody in town that’s done ‘Midsummer’ more times than Jeremy,” Skiles said. “He’s a terrific actor and director but he’s

a really good teacher, also. It’s really terrific for us to have somebody in rehearsal that fits those three areas because it helps our students get through the play.”

“He has an extreme respect for players and understands that what they want to do is extremely important but his notes are so inclusive so they offer direction with liberty,” Sheppard said.

“Midsummer” tickets for students, faculty and staff will be \$12 and adult tickets will be \$17.

However, because the show will not be on the main stage, the tickets will sell fast. Each night, the show will seat only about 100 audience members to give the

actors better experience and to make the setting and show more intimate.

“It’s really great training for students because it’s one thing to be up on stage and on a platform with a little divide between the student and audience, whereas your toes may be two inches from an audience member’s toes in this set up,” Skiles said. “It requires more focus and commitment on our actor’s part to make sure that they are really staying in the moment.”

“A Midsummer Night’s Dream” will be performed at 7:30 p.m. from Feb. 19-21 and at 2 p.m. on Feb. 22 in the Gallagher Student Center Theatre.

Jon Stewart to leave ‘Daily Show’

BY JESSICA GRIGGS
Guest Writer

After 15 years at the helm of one of America’s favorite satirical news programs, Jon Stewart announced that he will be leaving the “The Daily Show” later this year. Stewart cited a feeling of restlessness for his leaving the show and said that both the show and the viewers do not deserve “an even slightly restless host.” “The Daily Show” is Comedy Central’s longest-running program followed by South Park, and Stewart stated that it is time for someone else to have the “incredible opportunity” to host.

Since its creation in 1996, “The Daily Show” has won 19 Emmy Awards and two Peabody Awards with 3 million nightly viewers at the peak of its run.

During Stewart’s 15 years on the show, he covered a range of influential topics such as the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, multiple presidential elections and countless social controversies. He is

also well-known for his biting criticism of cable news.

In a 2009 poll, Stewart was named one of America’s most trusted news sources thanks to his gripping coverage of important issues as well as his acute interviews with prominent social and political figures.

Stewart took a leave of absence from the show in 2013 so that he could direct the film “Rosewater.”

Though he did not mention specific plans for his retirement, Stewart said that he has a lot of ideas for post- “Daily Show” life.

“I will have dinner on a school night with my family, who I have heard from multiple sources are lovely people,” Stewart said.

Stewart’s departure comes on the heels of Stephen Colbert’s exit from “The Daily Show” spin-off, “The Colbert Report,” to succeed David Letterman on CBS’s “Late Show.” Stewart’s witty humor, rigid criticism and entertaining personality were a staple of the nightly comedy show.

Edgecliff Vocal Ensemble entertains

BY LIZ SLOCUM
Staff Writer

The Xavier University Edgecliff Vocal Ensemble (EVE) teamed up with the St. Peter in Chains Cathedral Choir and the Cincinnati Camerata on Feb. 15 to perform at the St. Peter in Chains Cathedral downtown.

The concert consisted of sacred music by early composers such as William Byrd, Giacomo Carissimi, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina and Thomas Weelkes. The cathedral’s own choir began the concert with Byrd’s “Haec Dies,” the words of which translate to, “This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia.”

Following the Cathedral Choir, EVE performed three of its own pieces, all in Latin as well, before giving way to the Cincinnati Camerata, which sang four pieces in Latin and one in English. The three choirs wrapped up the performance with a combined performance of “Ave Verum

Corpus” by Byrd.

For their final individual piece, the EVE sang the final chorus from Carissimi’s “Historia di Jephthe.” Those who saw Sunday’s concert and wish to hear the complete oratorio should plan on seeing the EVE again in the spring.

“We’re doing the whole thing in April,” Dr. Tom Merrill said.

Merrill, who is the director of EVE and the head of the Department of Music and Theatre says the group has a full schedule ahead of it from now

until May.

“This is the first of three concerts we have this semester,” Merrill said. “It’s been pretty busy for us.”

Xavier EVE will be performing at the “Winter Music Festival: Winter Choral Collage” on Feb. 24 at Bellarmine Chapel and the Bach Festival on March 24 at Christ Church Cathedral, plus a performance of Mozart’s Requiem on April 26 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption. Visit xavier.edu/music for more information.



St. Peter in Chains Basilica, in which the Edgecliff Vocal Ensemble performed

Junior student vocal recital entrances

BY ZENAB SAEED
Staff Writer

The Xavier University Department of Music and Theatre presented the student recital, which featured vocal performances from juniors Laura DeBrunner, Griff Bludworth, Elizabeth Rancourt, Brandon Langjahr and Mary Bond.

The performance was held on the evening of Feb. 14 at Bellarmine Chapel. Each performance was accompanied by Jan Corrothers on piano.

The hour-long recital began

with an incredible performance of Mozart’s “Una donna a quindici anni” by DeBrunner.

Bludworth followed with performances of Mozart’s “Abendemphindung,” a leisurely piece that highlighted his baritone vocal abilities, and “Non piu andria,” a livelier piece that captivated audience members.

Next, Rancourt beautifully sang Franz Schubert’s “Der Hirt auf dem Felsen” with clarinet accompaniment by Eugene Marquis. Langjahr followed with Robert Schuman’s “Die beiden

Grenadiere” and “Windmung,” both of which were met by immense awe and applause from the audience. Bond sang “Una voce poco fa” from Gioacchino Rossini’s “The Barber of Seville” and her performance was truly beautiful.

Rancourt then sang two songs by Richard Strauss followed by DeBrunner, who sang three songs by Roger Quilter, and Bond, who sang five songs by Ned Rorem. The final song was Langjahr’s remarkable performance of Gene Scheer’s “Lean Away,” which was

the perfect way to end the recital.

The hard work and passion of all five students was evident in their performances. At the conclusion of the recital, the five talented students graciously thanked their voice instructor, Harriet Beebe Arrasmith.

“What you heard on Saturday evening is the progress we have made together in the last two and a half years,” Arrasmith said. “This is an extraordinary group of students who I enjoy teaching very much. They are all very talented and always up to more challenging

and creative repertoire. The most amazing thing is that they can ‘pull this off’ in the stressful environment that they exist in, but then, this is what Xavier University attracts: the very best. I would like to add that none of this would have been possible without the support of my esteemed colleagues, Jan Corrothers and Eugene Marquis, who both played brilliantly.”

For more information on student recitals, performances and other events, visit xavier.edu/music

‘SNL 40’ prompts guffaws and awkwardness

BY GRANT VANCE
Staff Writer

No one sitting in the audience of Studio 8H of Rockefeller Plaza on Oct. 11, 1975, could have ever predicted the importance of that Saturday night in New York City. Not only was it the premiere of “Saturday Night Live” — one of the most influential comedy shows in television history — but also the origin of a number of the most influential actors and comedians of today.

The weekly alternative sketch comedy show is still kicking after 40 years, and Sunday night viewers appreciated the magic it has brought to Saturday nights since its premiere.

The 40-year anniversary special of “Saturday Night Live” was a joy to watch, providing a great celebration of the show’s long-running importance, but not without its faults.

Filled with loads of guest stars, a plethora of sketch homage and musical performances galore, there really is a lot to love about this special.

Opening with a musical num-



“SNL 40” special blended celebrity appearances with old sketches featuring some of the program’s loved skits.

ber from Jimmy Fallon and Justin Timberlake, the show followed the standard structure of SNL, taking a breath before each beat to commemorate the highlights of the show’s past.

The great aspects of the special included but were not limited

to: Steve Martin providing the introduction for a collaborative opening monologue contest, Will Ferrell reprising his role as Alex Trebek for “Celebrity Jeopardy,” Tina Fey, Amy Poehler and Jane Curtain discussing former guests and shark safety on “Weekend

Update,” Andy Samberg teaming up with Adam Sandler for a brand new digital short and Wayne and Garth giving a top ten for SNL in a special episode of “Wayne’s World.”

These were more than enough reasons to sit through the three

and a half hours, but it isn’t a painless process.

Many of the sketches suffered from a jumpy, uneven pacing. This was entirely due to their attempts at giving everyone their moment. However this assortment of homage pieces worked in correlation with its attempted scope: the narrower, the better.

Too many sketches started well without sticking the landing, meandering about in a fury of cameo one-liners.

Though it could have used a good amount of polish, the 40 year anniversary special of “Saturday Night Live” was a great reminder of everything the show has provided since its George-Carlin-hosted inception.

The special reflected the nature of the show perfectly (for better or worse), providing a great, enjoyable outlet for topical sketch comedy, walking a thin line of quality with its uneven ups and downs.

Newswire Rating:

★★★★☆

‘Fifty Shades’ of Controversy

BY ALLISON WISYANSKI
Staff Writer

“Fifty Shades of Grey” hit the box office on Valentine’s Day, setting new records for the highest-grossing President’s Day weekend opener and ranking among the biggest R-rated debuts in history. According to the Associated Press, the movie set a record of \$81.7 million from more than 3,646 locations over the three-day period. Variety reports that the movie’s ticket sales over the three-day period hit \$209 million and that the overall box office should reach \$240 million.

With over 100 million copies of the book sold, it is no surprise that the movie lures in its readers as well as those who haven’t read the novel. Although both the novel and movie proved to be a success, controversy still arose regarding the subject matter.

The sex in this film involves whips, chains, blindfolds and a

submissive female partner who agrees to bondage and spanking behind closed doors.

Groups around the world are protesting against the movie, particularly Stop Porn Culture, an international feminist, anti-porn organization with branches in the United States, Norway and the United Kingdom.

“It’s a story of abuse, it’s a story of violence against women,” Gail Dines, founder and president of Stop Porn Culture, said.

The campaign is entitled “#50DollarsNot50Shades,” which boycotts the movie and combats violence against women. At the campaign’s center is a call to donate \$50 to a domestic violence shelter rather than purchasing movie tickets.

According to Dines, the film “rebrands violence as a romance. And what concerns us in society where 1 in 4 women are sexually abused we have a film that

is eroticizing, glorifying and basically legitimizing violence against women.”

The movie, though, has its supporters, if not already obvious by its success in numbers. Fans of the novels come to the film’s defense, arguing that the stories are “sensually explicit depictions of a young woman’s sexual awakening.”

E.L. James, the “Fifty Shades of Grey” author, responded to the critical backlash regarding the film adaptation.

“Domestic violence and rape are unacceptable. They are not entertaining in any way. Let me be absolutely clear. Everything that happens in this book is safe and consensual. What do I need to do to convince people?” James said in an interview with Associated Press.

No matter, the film is still raking in viewers and has the power of either pleasing or disturbing its audience.



Despite enormous box-office receipts, “Fifty Shades” received considerable criticism for graphic depictions of bondage and alternative sexual practice.

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Feature

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Living a Healthy lifestyle



BY HOLLIS CONNERS
Features Editor

Media is obsessed with losing weight and attaining an “ideal body type.” However, in the quest for the perfect body, many overlook the idea of simply living a healthy lifestyle. The following suggestions are not intended to advise students to lose weight. They are simple suggestions one can use to not only help form healthier habits, but to feel good about health choices.



Invest in a Water Bottle

Not only will this help you save money by not buying bottles out of the vending machines, but drinking water throughout the day will also help keep you hydrated. Drinking water during class also contributes to helping you stay awake during long lectures. Those who work out regularly and drink coffee every day should be conscious about the amount of water they drink, since those two things cause faster dehydration.

Get Enough Sleep

Many college students don't get enough sleep. Some may be studying for a test, while others might keep hitting the “Next Episode” button on Netflix. Either way, sleep deprivation contributes to decreased performance in class, memory impairment, stress and irritability. According to the National Sleep Foundation, young adults (ages 18-25) need seven to nine hours of sleep every night, though many can run on six.

Don't Live in Filth

Really. We are all adults and we are all capable of doing our laundry regularly, vacuuming our carpet and even wiping down the bathroom counter. Spend a few minutes cleaning every few days to make sure your life is together. It helps you feel more organized and you won't have to “deep clean” everything as much. Just a little bit of maintenance helps to preserve your home, makes a safer environment and promotes positive mental health and hygiene.

Go to the dentist

Even if you brush and floss twice a day, everyone should go to the dentist every six months. According to Mayo Clinic, there may be a correlation between heart health and dental health. On top of that, poor dental hygiene will make your teeth yellow, your breath smelly and the plaque will eat away your teeth and give you cavities.

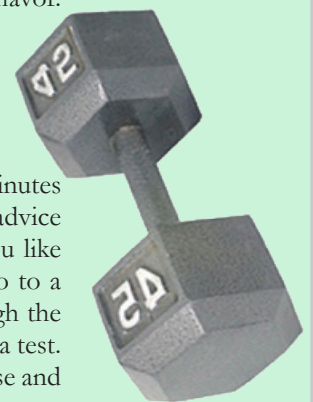
Replace Unhealthy Snacks

SLOWLY implement healthier snacks into your regimen. If you try and cut out all the chips, cookies and candies at once, you likely won't be successful and you'll get crabby from the lack of sugar. Your body really does get addicted to junk food. Instead of forcing a major switch, gradually replace one candy bar with one fruit and throw in a few vegetables. The general rule is if the food is more colorful, it is likely healthier. This does not mean to go and buy a bag of gummy bears or Fruit Loops because they are colorful. It means take a stroll through the produce and see what you find. Maybe add a little peanut butter to your banana, or caramel to your apple for extra flavor.



Exercise

No one needs to hear any more about how exercising for 30 minutes every day is good for him or her. We all know that already. But the advice to take from this article is to participate in exercise you enjoy. If you like playing basketball, hit up the courts. If you like to ride your bike, go to a spin class. If you aren't big on strenuous activity, go on a walk through the park with a friend. Use the conversation to catch up or even study for a test. Not only does regular exercise help to lower the chance of heart disease and increase the overall lifespan, but it can be fun too!



Deep Breathe

Many don't like to sit for a long period to meditate, but taking five minutes to deep breathe before a test, before bed or even before any other stressful situation can help you to relax. Take a deep breath in through the nose, then out through the mouth. Make sure the inhales and exhales are each 10 seconds long. Just close your eyes and relax your shoulders, and then soon enough you'll have experienced a five-minute mini meditation.



Spend Time with People You Love

Constantly studying your life away alone in the library or even hiding away in your room to watch Netflix for hours on end won't do any good for you in a social sense (even if Netflix is fun and amazing). Not that you shouldn't study or have “you time,” just simply spend an hour or so on a Sunday getting coffee with a friend or talking to your parents. Having positive relationships with people will help reduce stress and improve your overall health. It's fun, it builds positivity and it gives you a break from your never-ending list of responsibilities. Let yourself have a break.

